

UNIVERSITY TEKNOLOGI MARA

**THE INFLUENCE OF SPELLING-CHECKERS ON STUDENTS'
ABILITY TO GENERATE REPAIRS OF SPELLING ERRORS**

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This dissertation is submitted as a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of
Masters in Education (Teaching English as a Second Language)

MAY 2013

DECLARATION

I declare that the work in this dissertation was carried out in accordance with the regulation of Universiti Teknologi MARA. It is original and is the result of my own work, unless otherwise indicated or acknowledged as reference work. This topic has not been submitted to any academic institution or non-academic institution for any other degree or qualification

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Date	: 15 th May 2013

ABSTRACT

Recent studies show that spell-checkers help reduces students' surface error in writing by flagging spelling errors and giving correct spelling suggestions. However, are the error corrections provided by spelling checkers internalised by students? This study investigated whether the presence of spelling-checkers influenced students' abilities to repair spelling errors. A quasi-experimental two groups study was conducted on 30 Form 1 students, one with spelling-checkers, and one without. The students were given dictations which contained target words. The checker helped the students revise their spelling. However, after the use of spelling checkers, students still made the same errors in their spelling. The findings suggest that spell-checkers have very little influence on students' abilities to repair spelling errors.

ABSTRAK

‘Spelling-Checker’ membantu mengurangkan kesilapan luaran atau ‘surface error’ pelajar dalam penulisan Bahasa Inggeris. Walaubagaimanapun, adakah ‘spelling-checker’ ini berkesan dalam membetulkan kesilapan pelajar pada tahap kognitif? Kajian ini mengkaji tentang pengaruh ‘spelling-checker’ ke atas kebolehan pelajar memulih kesilapan ejaan mereka. Kajian quasi-eksperimental dilakukan ke atas 30 pelajar Tingkatan 1, satu kumpulan dibenarkan mengguna ‘spelling-checker’ dan satu kumpulan lagi tidak. Pelajar diberi ujian yang mengandungi perkataan yang telah dikenalpasti oleh pengkaji untuk dianalisa. ‘Spelling-Checker’ ini telah membantu pelajar memperbetulkan ejaan mereka di dalam computer. Walaubagaimanapun, selepas penggunaannya, pelajar didapati masih membuat kesilapan yang sama dalam ejaan mereka. Kajian ini membuktikan bahawa ‘spelling-checker’ tidak mempengaruhi pelajar memperbetulkan kesilapan ejaan secara kognitif.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I would like to express my gratitude to those who have assisted me in making this study a success. This study would not be successful without their support and encouragement.

I wish to relay my sincere thanks to my supervisor, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Simon Botley @ Faizal Hakim, who guided me and provided feedback whenever it was needed.

I would also like to extend my gratitude to my lecturers who have imparted their knowledge and their experiences during my time in completing this programme.

My utmost appreciation goes to the principal of Sekolah Menengah Sains Kuching, Sarawak, Mdm Hajah Salbiah binti Haji Seman for allowing me to work with the school, Miss Rabiah Ghani, Mr. Azha Midun and Mr. Mohd Subri Ismail for providing me with the students and the venues for conducting research, the teachers and students for their never ending moral support and encouragement. I dedicate this degree to the school.

Last but never the least; I would like to express my deepest love and gratitude to my husband, Herman Sambikin and my children Hezekiah Ariel, Herschelle Aurora and Hadriel Adley for their encouragement and understanding throughout this programme and my parents for their prayers and blessings. Thank you.